

Torrance Herald

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This Week's Motto:

The world needs some old-fashioned diplomacy—the kind that can fool you for more than 24 hours.

A Glimpse of Summer

Two frightening glimpses of what summer could be like in Southern California were offered Southlanders Friday night in the Hollywood Hills.

The tinder-dry hillsides, thirsting after one of the driest winters in California history, are just waiting for a spark to roar into flames. Within seconds of its start Friday night, the wind-swept flames had engulfed acres of brush, and had begun the destruction of more than a score of homes.

Equally frightening, but not as easily explained, is the attraction such a disaster area holds for people.

Throughout the height of the blaze Friday night, radio and television stations were repeating police requests, warnings, and threats to motorists to stay out of the area. Despite the warnings issued every few minutes, roadways for miles around became so clogged that fire and police equipment in some cases was immobilized.

The tinder-dry brush we can understand. The frenzy which would lead people to climb into their cars and drive across town to get a close-up look at such a disaster, when they know it can only interfere with efforts to combat it, is more difficult to understand.

For want of a better explanation, we are forced to lay it to stupidity.

During the coming months, California is going to be faced with more serious fires because of the dry winter. It is incumbent on all Californians to be fire-fighters throughout this dangerous period — be extra cautious with fires, obey all closed-area restrictions.

And should such a conflagration break-out — stay away!

Peggy Rides a Trike

Peggy, a pretty three year old girl, rode a tricycle today. This in itself is not extraordinary, but for Peggy it is. She was born with Cerebral Palsy. Peggy has what is called, Spastic Hemiplegia. The left side of Peggy's brain which controls the muscles and sense organs of the right side of her body were damaged during birth.

In order to help Peggy live a near normal life she was enrolled in the UCLA Cerebral Palsy Pre-School Nursery when she was 18 months old. Here she will receive mental therapy, which will teach the right side of her brain to do the work of the whole brain. She will also receive physical therapy, which will teach the muscles and sense organs of her right side to react to the messages given them by the brain.

Such an education is a never-ending task. Peggy will have some form of therapy the rest of her life. But if a child such as Peggy, can be taught to walk, to run, to jump, yes, even to ride a tricycle, then the money and heartache will be worth the effort.

Out of the Past

From the Files of the HERALD

30 Years Ago

The age old art of love-making received official sanction and encouragement this week by the Torrance city council when eight more rustic benches were ordered for El Prado park.

An illuminated baseball diamond was one of the attractions offered in a campaign preceding a park bond issue set for June 9 back in 1931. The city league, then a thriving

round of competition that regularly attracted as many as 4,000 fans, looked forward to playing off its annual championship in the proposed new park.

The tenth anniversary of Torrance as municipality was duly observed with a special section of the HERALD on May 14, 1931. The issue was replete with pictures of early days in the community established on grounds that were

originally part of the old Spanish grant Rancho San Pedro.

A photograph of the first fire department showed volunteers decked out for action. A railroad tire alarm rim was used to call the lads into action.

"Ten years ago — when Torrance was incorporated, wrote the editor, "things were quite different than today. The voice of radio was a queer novelty; the motion pictures were speechless; Lindbergh was yet to fly the Atlantic; Mussolini had not marched on Rome and the aftermath of the war was still acute."

The first resident land owners in the community were listed as J. J. Byrnes, 2066 Carson St.; R. R. Smith, 2004 Carson St. and George Smith, 1976 Carson. They purchased homesites when they were first offered for sale in 1912.

20 Years Ago

Plans for a million dollar housing project, providing 575 rental residential units to be built on property facing Western Ave. opposite Columbia Steel Co. were announced by J. V. Maynes, president of the Pioneer Discount Corporation. Sale of land for the purpose was confirmed by Grover C. Whyte, president of the Shoe String Land Co.

Torrance city park was the setting for the May meeting of the Torrance Breakfast club on Sunday. Because of Mothers' Day and church services, the business meeting was postponed until June.

Free breakfasts were in store for all those who attended the opening of the A & P store on El Prado in 1941.

Texas Ranger



'Solved' Farm Problem Continues to Irk Feds

By JAMES DORAIS

Over the years—and administrations — since the farm problem was "solved" during the early New Deal days by having Uncle Sam buy, at higher than market prices, the surplus basic crops that farmers produce, the surplus have mounted and mounted in warehouses, sheds, caves and old Liberty ships.

One of the more appealing ideas advanced for disposing of these tax-paid-for surpluses is to send them abroad for distribution to the needy, underfed people of the world.

The Eisenhower administration inaugurated a "Food for Peace" program to do just that, and the Kennedy administration is intent on broadening the program's scope.

Spokesmen for the new re-

gime are placing lesser emphasis on the goal of reducing American farm surpluses and greater stress on the program as a cold-war weapon to increase American prestige by raising the world's nutritional intake.

Like so many worthy causes, however, the program's operation isn't as simple as it sounds.

For one thing, friendly countries with agricultural surpluses of their own to export complain that "Food for Peace" is unfair competition.

While the surplus farm products are supposed to be "sold" payments are not made in U.S. dollars but in foreign currencies which can only be spent, under rigid restrictions, in the country doing the "buying." According to the Wall Street Journal, the United States horde of virtually unspeakable rupees, pesos, diars, etc., is nearing \$10 billion.

In the final analysis, then, Food for Peace is a giveaway. But like other giveaways, there is insufficient assurance that it gets to the people who really need it.

Primitive handling and transportation facilities, thievery and black market activity in recipient countries impede the program.

And many foreign governments—seemingly blithely unconcerned about the problem of hunger among their people—are less than fully cooperative.

Another major problem is that the food products that needy people abroad want are not necessarily the food products that are in surplus production in the U.S.

The most wanted crop is

rice; to supply it, a boost in American rice acreage was proposed, but eventually rejected, as the added price support spending to provide the rice needs of one country alone — Pakistan—would have cost U.S. taxpayers \$30 million a year.

Some Food for Peace efforts are being devoted to try to persuade foreigners to change their eating habits; other to persuade Americans farmers to change their growing habits.

Illustrating the latter, and indicating how the emphasis has changed from disposing of surpluses to encouraging an increase in the "right" surpluses, price supports on soybeans — a "wanted" product abroad — were recently increased by Secretary of the Agriculture Orville Freeman from \$1.85 to \$2.30 a bushel.

Gains and Brains

Teachers receive much criticism. However, we should thank God for our teachers. They communicate their own joy in learning, and share the best treasures of their minds with our children. They arouse drowsy spirits. They encourage eager hearts and minds. They guide the unstable. Most teachers don't expect special recognition. Seeing children become good citizens and a thanks from parents is sufficient. A good teacher affects eternity. "Good instruction shall give peace." (Proverbs 13:15)

During This Week

May 14, 1836 - Congress authorized the first Federally-supported scientific expedition. Commanded by Lieut. Charles Wilkes, the excursion explored the South Seas.

May 15, 1854 - The first American institution for helping alcoholics was founded at Binghamton, N.Y. Dr. James Turner organized the United States Inebriate Asylum.

May 16, 1775 - The Provincial Congress of Massachusetts passed America's original state constitution. John Hancock became first governor.

May 17, 1908 - The first underwater tunnel between the U.S. and a foreign country started operating by electric

city. The \$2,700,000, 6,025 foot tunnel was between Port Huron, Mich., and Sarnia, Ontario.

May 18, 1431 - Gonzalo Cabral, Portuguese navigator, discovered the Azores — nine volcanic islands, 800 miles west of Portugal. They are important in world trade.

May 19, 1911 - Caesar Celia, alias Charles Crispi, became the first American convicted because of fingerprints, following his arrest for burglary in New York City.

May 20, 1830 - The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad set a pattern for other lines by advertising their schedule in a newspaper-Baltimore American.

AFTER HOURS By John Morley

Background of Invasion In Cuba Under Scrutiny

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Only a few people here in Washington know the real reasons for the failure of the landings in Cuba. Those who do, from the President down, are not talking . . . and they should not. Most columnists, including this one, have no inside track either to the facts, or own a crystal ball that might reveal the causes of the failure. We can only hazard a few opinions . . . nothing more or less.

President Kennedy had at his disposal the facts of the previous administration and the facts of his own advisors and decided in favor of the landings in Cuba on April 17. On the basis of what he knew, he felt there was a good chance for success and openly committed the U. S. to the landings.

It is obvious now that his advice was either wrong . . . or there were Castro spies among the anti-Castro forces in the U.S. intervention.

From the Cuban jigsaw puzzle these facts are now crystal clear: The U.S. trained the freedom-fighters, furnished the weapons and supervised the invasion. We acted without consulting the anti-Castro leaders in the U.S. on strategy, fearing that pro-Castro spies had infiltrated their ranks in Miami. We heard these rumors while

in Miami and here in Washington.

Those we talked to in the know are not convinced that the April 17 landings of the freedom-fighters at Cochinobay were an all-out invasion to overthrow Castro . . . but mainly to join the anti-Castro forces in the mountains . . . and to test Castro's defenses. This part of the invasion was successfully accomplished.

It is now reported that less than 200 men landed at Cochinobay, not 2000 as planned. The total force of anti-Castro fighters has been given in Miami and Washington as 18,000 men. The question is . . . where were these men on April 17?

Why was the southern coast of Cuba selected as the invasion point, rather than a spot on the northern coast, where supply and rescue would be easier from the U.S.? It could be that we chose the southern coast, and reduced the chances for victory, so as to keep our assistance as secret as possible.

The swampy Cienega de Zapata region chosen, backed as it is by flat and rolling plains, is ideally suited for tank warfare and lacking in cover for the invaders. Why didn't the landings take place in the Escambray mountain regions where hundreds of freedom fighters were and are hiding out?

It is easy to criticize the President, his advisors, Central Intelligence, or the state department. Undoubtedly miscalculations were made all around. The press did exaggerate the size and significance of the landings, as is the case when such secret and uncertain incidents are covered. It was unfortunate that our side did not win this time . . . but it is unfair for the public and the press now to deride President Kennedy and his advisors for the failure in Cuba.

President Eisenhower admitted that the anti-Castro forces were trained and equipped by his administration for an invasion. It is possible that he, too, might have ordered the invasion on April 17 had he been in the White House, on the basis of intelligence reports.

Like other setbacks, let us accept this one without name-calling and recrimination. We cannot expect to win every time we take a gamble—and the Cuba landings were a high gamble at best. The record of the Cuban people in past years suggests their reluctance to rise against their government for fear of repercussions. It was foolhardy to have expected them to rise on April 17, for they had few guns and no assurance that the U.S. would land troops to support them.

After the Castro purges and executions in recent months, the Cuban masses are in no mood for heroics unless evidence of victory is certain. No such evidence was apparent last April. To have counted on defections inside Cuba on the basis of landings

was unwarranted . . . for mass defections did not even occur when Castro battled Batista.

The masses did not show their hands until Castro made his triumphant appearance in Havana itself . . . then everybody celebrated the victory. Those who counted on mass defections against Castro might have recalled the abortive failure of Castro's call for a general strike in Havana April 9, 1958, some eight months before he took power from Batista in January 1959.

Castro for months has resorted to every type of insult and threat to provoke U.S. intervention in Cuba . . . or to entangle the U.S. in war against the USSR over Cuba. For Castro's best chance of Latin America conquest, he thinks, would come in a major war between the U.S.A. and the USSR, using Cuba as a Communist base for Latin America operations. What fanatics like he cannot realize is that the U.S. would blast him off the island at the very early stages of such a conflict.

The U.S. public must not jump to conclusions simply on the basis of political preferences on the failure in Cuba. Such prejudice and bigotry is bad for the nation. The President, in assuming full responsibility publicly, showed both courage and propriety. Those who know his temperament can only guess at the private lashing of his advisors and the likelihood that new steps will be taken to prevent such failures in the future.



"As we see it, just as important as getting man into space is getting this country back to earth."—Richard W. Johnson, Cripple Creek (Colo.) Gold Rush.

"Why don't they plan on sending a rock 'n' roll singer up as the first man into space? That way, if the thing fails, we will at least have one thing to feel good about."—Richard Mayer Jr., North Vernon (Ind.) Sun.

"It may be a helpful sign for peace with Russia that that country is trying missile contact with Venus instead of Mars."—Lloyd Neff, Johnson County (Topeka, Kans.) Herald.

"The Russians are not always first. The young fellow who works around my office has found a girl who is out of this world."—George B. Bowra, Aztec (N.M.) Independent-Review.

"One of the quickest ways to meet new people is to pick up the wrong ball on a golf course."—Pat Ward, Indiana Mfgs. Assn.

"The free enterprise system, upon which the economic foundation of this country was built, has provided the American people with the highest standard of living ever known to any society, and continued functioning of this system is dependent upon active participation by the citizens throughout the land."—C. P. and L. E. Woods, Sheldon (Ia.) Mail.

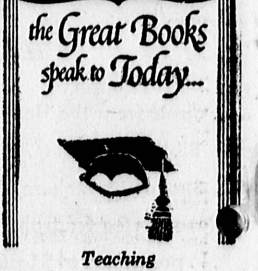
"Is this really a New Frontier or merely a renaming of old and dangerous ideals?"—Will Long, Hebron (Neb.) Journal-Register.

"Local elections are frequently lost in the ballyhoo and press-agentry of the huge national spectacles. We tend to lose sight of the fact that what is done locally by whom has the most immediate effect upon our everyday lives."—Richard L. Adams, Whitefish (Mont.) Pilot.

"In spite of what you hear, what we have been going through is not a recession. It's just a boom and somebody lowered it."—Edgar R. Apking, Onaway (Mich.) News.

"And whatever happened to movies for children?"—Billy Carmichael III, Chapel Hill (N.C.) Weekly.

"Spring, as they say, has virtually sprung, and it's time for us to spring with it."—C. J. Del Vaglio, Thomaston (Conn.) Express.



There is nothing like alluring the appetites and affections. Otherwise you make nothing but so many asses laden with books.
—MICHEL DE MONTAIGNE (1533-92)

For teaching, true eloquence consists not in making people like what they disliked, nor in making them do what they shrank from — but in making clear what was obscure. Yet if this is done without grace of style, the benefit does not extend beyond the eager few.
—ST. AUGUSTINE (354-430)

Not one word spoke he more than was his need; And that was said in fullest reverence And short and quick and full of high good sense. Pregnant of moral virtue was his speech; And gladly would he learn and gladly teach.
—GEOFFREY CHAUCER (c.1340-1400)

Little Chats

On Public Notice

(Copyright 1960)

By JAMES E. POLLARD

Lowest and Best (No. 20 in a Series)
One of the most common forms of public notice, or legal advertising, is that which invites bids on such things as public works, improvements, equipment and supplies. Usually the notice specifies that the bids must be sealed, sets a time limit when they must be filed, in some cases calls for the filing of a performance bond, and gives other details.

Such a public notice serves several purposes. It publicizes the intention of a branch of the government or other public or semi-public agency. In particular, in the kind of situation in question, it aims at competitive bidding as in highway improvements or school building contracts.

There is no guarantee, of course, that such legal advertising will produce bids. It

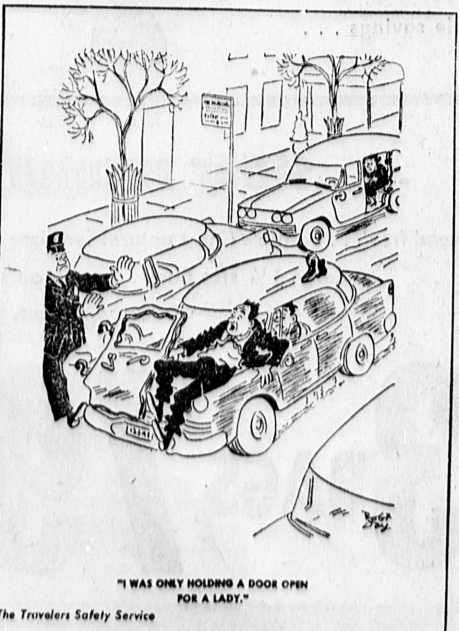
happens sometimes, too, that the bids are nearly or actually identical. But the law generally gives authority to readvertise where the bids exceed the estimate or are otherwise unacceptable.

The law often gives discretion also for the acceptance, by the proper authorities, of the "lowest and best" bid. The lowest bid may not be the best bid, everything considered, and the best, conversely, may not be the lowest.

It is a major part of the function of the public notice, published in a bona fide newspaper of paid general circulation, to bring out the "lowest and best" bid. This is of great importance to the public which pays the bills. It is of importance also to other interested parties, including the bidders themselves.

Deadly Reckoning

by Robt. Day



Motor vehicle accidents caused more than 3,100,000 casualties in 1960.